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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/866,793 05/30/01 VESPER S VESPER1

001444 HM12/0720
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SUITE 300
WASHINGTON DC 20001-5303

EXAMINER

SHANNAN-SHAH, K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1645

3

DATE MAILED:

07/20/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Table with fields: Application No. (09/866,793), Applicant(s) (VESPER, STEPHEN JOSEPH), Examiner (Khatol S Shahnan-Shah), Art Unit (1645)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) [] Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
2a) [] This action is FINAL. 2b) [x] This action is non-final.
3) [] Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) [x] Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) [] Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) [] Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
7) [] Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) [x] Claim(s) 1-18 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) [] The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) [] The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) [] accepted or b) [] objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
11) [] The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) [] approved b) [] disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
12) [] The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) [] Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) [] All b) [] Some * c) [] None of:
1. [] Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. [] Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. [] Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
14) [] Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) [] The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
15) [] Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) [] Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) [] Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) [] Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
4) [] Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
5) [] Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) [] Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1, 6-9, 11-12 and 16-18 are, drawn to a protein (fungal hemolysin) and a method of making a protein, classified in class 530, subclasses 371 and 412.
 - II. Claim 2 is, drawn to an antibody, classified in class 424, subclass 152.1.
 - III. Claims 3-5 are, drawn to an in vitro method of diagnosis, classified in class 436, subclass 512.
 - IV. Claims 10 and 15 are, drawn to an antibody and fungal hemolysin conjugate and method of using, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
 - V. Claims 13-14 are, drawn to a method of immunizing using fungal hemolysin, classified in class 424, subclass 1.49.

2. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Groups III and V are drawn to different methods. The claims of group III are drawn to a method of diagnosis, those of group V are drawn to a method of altering immune function. The inventions are shown to be distinct because they are drawn to distinct methods, which differ in the method objectives, method steps, reagents and material used.

Groups I and II are drawn to structurally and functionally different products. The claims of group I are drawn to a protein (fungal hemolysin), that of group II is drawn to an antibody.

Groups II and IV are drawn to different products. That of group II is drawn to an anti hemolysine antibody, those of group IV are drawn to a fungal hemolysin conjugated to an

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antibody to cancer cells. The inventions are shown to be distinct because they are drawn to distinct products made by different methods and they are functionally distinct products.

Inventions I and IV are related as combination and subcombination. Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the fungal hemolysin can be used for immunoassays. The subcombination has separate utility such as treating cancer.

Inventions I and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the fungal hemolysin can be as an antigen for skin test.

Inventions I and V are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the process can be used by using other fungal proteins.

3. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

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4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Election

5. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Election 1. Please choose one of the fungus species from claims 5, 12, and 14.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-3, 6, 10, 13, 15-18 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).


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Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khatol Shahnan-Shah whose telephone number is (703) 308-8896. The examiner can normally be reached from 7:30 AM - 4 PM on Monday through Friday. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynette F Smith, can be reached on (703) 308-3909. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned to is (703) 305-3014.


Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

 7/19/01

Khatol Shahnan-Shah, BS, Pharm, MS

Biotechnology Patent Examiner

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RODNEY P SWARTZ, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER